

Application No. 09/784,179
Response to Office Action dated May 18, 2004

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended): A composition, comprising, in a physiologically acceptable medium:
 - (1) N-cholesteryloxycarbonyl-4-para-aminophenol; and
 - (2) hydroquinone ~~or a hydroquinone compound which has depigmenting or lightening activity.~~
2. (Original): The composition of claim 1, wherein said N-cholesteryloxycarbonyl-4-para-aminophenol is present in an amount of from 0.01 to 5% by weight, relative to the total weight of said composition.
3. (Original): The composition of claim 1, wherein said N-cholesteryloxycarbonyl-4-para-aminophenol is present in an amount of from 0.5 to 2.5% by weight, relative to the total weight of said composition.
4. (Currently Amended): The composition of Claim 1, wherein said hydroquinone ~~or hydroquinone compound~~ is present in an amount of 0.1 to 2 % by weight, relative to the total weight of said composition.
5. (Currently Amended): The composition of Claim 1, wherein said hydroquinone ~~or hydroquinone compound~~ is present in an amount of 0.5 to 1 % by weight, relative to the total weight of said composition.
6. (Currently Amended): The composition of Claim 1, wherein said N-cholesteryloxycarbonyl-4-para-aminophenol is present in an amount of 0.01 to 5 % by

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weight, relative to the total weight of said composition, and said hydroquinone or ~~hydroquinone compound~~ is present in an amount of 0.1 to 2 % by weight, relative to the total weight of said composition.

7. (Currently Amended): The composition of Claim 1, wherein said N-cholesteryloxycarbonyl-4-para-aminophenol is present in an amount of 0.5 to 2.5 % by weight, relative to the total weight of said composition, and said hydroquinone or ~~hydroquinone compound~~ is present in an amount of 0.5 to 1 % by weight, relative to the total weight of said composition.

8. (Original): The composition of claim 1, wherein said N-cholesteryloxycarbonyl-4-para-aminophenol is included in a lamellar phase of ionic or nonionic lipid vesicles, with an oily or aqueous center.

9. (Currently Amended): The composition of Claim 8, wherein said vesicles are dispersed in an aqueous or oily phase comprising said hydroquinone or ~~hydroquinone compound~~.

10. (Currently Amended): The composition of Claim 8, wherein said hydroquinone or ~~hydroquinone compound~~ is encapsulated in said vesicles.

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11. (Original): The composition of claim 1, further comprising at least one ingredient selected from the group consisting of UV-screening agents and desquamatory agents.

12. (Currently Amended): A method for depigmenting and/or lightening the skin, body hair, or head hair, comprising applying to the skin, body hair and/or head hair, a composition comprising, in a physiologically acceptable medium:

- (1) N-cholesteryloxycarbonyl-4-para-aminophenol; and
- (2) hydroquinone ~~or a hydroquinone compound which has depigmenting or lightening activity.~~

13. (Original): The method of claim 12, wherein said N-cholesteryloxycarbonyl-4-para-aminophenol is present in said composition in an amount of from 0.01 to 5% by weight, relative to the total weight of said composition.

14. (Original): The method of claim 12, wherein said N-cholesteryloxycarbonyl-4-para-aminophenol is present in said composition in an amount of from 0.5 to 2.5% by weight, relative to the total weight of said composition.

15. (Currently Amended): The method of Claim 12, wherein said hydroquinone ~~or hydroquinone compound~~ is present in said composition in an amount of 0.1 to 2 % by weight, relative to the total weight of said composition.

16. (Currently Amended): The method of Claim 12, wherein said hydroquinone ~~or hydroquinone compound~~ is present in said composition in an amount of 0.5 to 1 % by

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weight, relative to the total weight of said composition.

17. (Currently Amended): The method of Claim 12, wherein said N-cholesteryloxycarbonyl-4-para-aminophenol is present in an amount of 0.01 to 5 % by weight, relative to the total weight of said composition, and said hydroquinone or ~~hydroquinone compound~~ is present in an amount of 0.1 to 2 % by weight, relative to the total weight of said composition.

18. (Currently Amended): The method of Claim 12, wherein said N-cholesteryloxycarbonyl-4-para-aminophenol is present in said composition in an amount of 0.5 to 2.5 % by weight, relative to the total weight of said composition, and said hydroquinone or ~~hydroquinone compound~~ is present in said composition in an amount of 0.5 to 1 % by weight, relative to the total weight of said composition.

19. (Original): The method of claim 12, wherein said N-cholesteryloxycarbonyl-4-para-aminophenol is included in a lamellar phase of ionic or nonionic lipid vesicles, with an oily or aqueous center.

20. (Currently Amended): The method of Claim 19, wherein said vesicles are dispersed in an aqueous or oily phase containing hydroquinone or ~~a hydroquinone compound~~.

21. (Currently Amended): The composition of Claim 19, wherein said hydroquinone or ~~hydroquinone compound~~ is encapsulated in said vesicles.

22. (Original): The method of claim 12, wherein said composition further

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comprises at least one ingredient selected from the group consisting of UV-screening agents and desquamatory agents.

23. (Canceled).